The Bureau of Energy Resources (ENR) leads the Department of State’s and U.S. government’s efforts to forge international energy policy, strengthen U.S. and global energy security, and respond to energy challenges from around the world that affect U.S. economic interests and national security.

ENR’s principal goals include:

- Ensuring the energy security of the United States, our partners, and our allies by supporting the diversification of energy sources, supplies, and routes;
- Opening markets and reducing barriers to energy trade and development;
- Promoting exports of U.S. energy resources, technologies, and services;
- Ensuring that energy resources are not used by terrorists, rogue regimes, and others who seek to fund violence and harm the United States and its allies;
- Promoting universal access to affordable, reliable energy; and
- Improving regional cooperation, fostering political stability, and preventing energy-related conflict.

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ENERGY PRIORITIES

- Promote transparent and more robust market-oriented regional energy trade.
- Develop, monitor, and implement energy sanctions to help achieve the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.
- Support the right of countries in the region to develop their energy resources in accordance with their national priorities.
- Promote China’s transition to a diversified, market-based power system in order to open up the world’s largest electricity market to U.S. companies and investors.

PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

Power Sector Program (PSP)
ENR provides technical support to create solvent, reliable, transparent, and sustainable power sectors through direct contracting, peer-to-peer exchanges, and the leveraging of U.S. interagency agreements. ENR works in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos with support from the Lower Mekong Initiative.

Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI)
ENR provides U.S. interagency and independent expert advice to build oversight and governance capacity in the hydrocarbon and mineral sectors. ENR has provided EGCI assistance to multiple governments on upstream and midstream legislation and regulations.

U.S.-China Power Consumption, Demand, and Competition Cooperation
ENR coordinates with the U.S. interagency and energy experts to develop policy recommendations for China to integrate renewable energy into its power system and to adopt a transparent, market-based electricity market.

Expanding Electricity Infrastructure in Southeast Asia
ENR partners with Lower Mekong Initiative governments, the International Energy Agency, and industry to harmonize air conditioning standards in the region and facilitate standards compliance to improve energy efficiency.
ENERGY ENGAGEMENT AT A GLANCE

ENR leads a U.S.-China policy dialogue on China’s electricity sector reforms. This forum works to find market-based solutions for China’s electricity market to attract U.S. companies and investors.

ENR leads the annual U.S.-Republic of Korea Energy Security Dialogue, a forum to deepen cooperation on bilateral and regional energy security and discuss ways to increase U.S. energy exports to the ROK.

ENR leads the U.S.-Japan Energy Strategic Dialogue, which brings policy makers together to discuss bilateral cooperation on energy security and trade.

ENR works with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Energy Working Group (EWG) to promote U.S. energy policies, programs, technologies, standards, and best practices that support energy security, energy access, and sustainable energy development in an effort to create markets for U.S. clean energy technologies.

ENR supports energy transition efforts in the Freely Associated States through the Pacific Energy Transition Initiative, by providing technical assistance to help countries improve energy sector planning, coordination, and governance to achieve a more diverse and secure energy supply.

VIETNAM
ENR supports the Electricity Authority of Vietnam to integrate foreign-owned power plants and hydropower units into its new competitive market. ENR shares U.S. lessons learned through peer-to-peer exchanges on how to develop effective market regulations that respond to Vietnam’s growing electricity demand. These efforts will help attract investment in its power sector.

CAMBODIA
ENR supports the Electricity Authority of Cambodia (EAC) by sharing regulatory best-practices through peer-to-peer exchanges with U.S. regulators. ENR works to improve utility performance, regulatory monitoring, license compliance, service quality, and consumer affairs and services. As a result of ENR assistance, EAC improved communication with consumers and the performance of its utility, increasing access to energy.

LAOS
ENR assists the Lao national utility to create a new transmission tariff methodology, develop a more accurate short-term forecasting model, improve data management processes, and assess best practices for power purchase agreements. The proposed short-term forecasting methodology has the potential to reduce error rates from 5-10 percent to 3 percent, resulting in cost savings.

MONGOLIA
ENR provides advice to the Mongolian Ministry of Mining to align Mongolia’s amended Petroleum Law with international best practices and to establish clear, predictable, and effective policies for the Mongolian government to plan infrastructure development and effectively manage the environmental impact of energy projects.

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